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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

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SUBJECT Natural Gas in the Area of Stryy

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Geological research in the upper valley of the Stryy River in the area about five kilometers southwest of Stryy N 49-15, E 23-50 had started sometime before World War II when this area belonged to Poland. [redacted] but World War II interrupted it. [redacted] nothing was done on the project by the Germans during World War II, and continuation of the work in the area was undertaken by the Soviets sometime in 1946. 25X1 25X1 25X1
2. The organization in charge of this research in USSR was the State Geological Research Administration (Gosudarstvennaya Geologicheskaya Razvedka-GosGeologoRazvedka) whose central offices were in Moscow. Although the State Geological Research Administration had regional offices in all republics of the USSR (the Ukrainian one being in Kiev), the Stryy project [redacted] was entrusted directly to the central office of the State Geological Research Administration in Moscow. 25X1
3. After several months of research by Soviets in the Stryy area, the drilling had started at the end of 1946 about two kilometers north of the village of Bratkowce, on the left bank of the Stryy River. See Sketch. The drilling resulted in a tremendous explosion of gas and a fire that could not be extinguished for several months; the fire endangered several adjoining villages. New drillings were undertaken, and eventually in Spring of 1947 the gas was capped and the fire extinguished. The crater where the explosion had occurred was large, 30 to 50 m. in diameter, and it eventually filled with water.
4. Subsequently, full scale drilling was undertaken in an area of approximately 25 sq. km. around the explosion point. Many derricks were built on both banks of the Stryy River, the largest number on its left bank. By 1949 [redacted] there were 30-40 derricks in the area. 25X1

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5. In 1948 or in the beginning of 1949, construction of a gas pipeline, Stryy - L'vov - Kiev, had started. At this time [redacted] this project referred to as "Dakhav-Kiev". and of its task, to supply Kiev with gas. [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] The pipeline to Kiev was built along the main Stryy - L'vov - Kiev highway as a double metal pipe, each part of which was 40 cm. in diameter. The pipes were laid underground, but in low terrain and across valleys and rivers they ran one or two meters above the ground supported by metal posts. The metal alloy from which the pipes were made had a gray-yellow color. Work was done by special workers' brigades, and no adjoining kolkhozy helped supply manpower.
6. In 1950 the pipeline had reached Kiev. At that time practically all streets in the central part of Kiev were torn up to install the pipes carrying gas to various city blocks and individual houses. The city pipes were presumably made of the same alloy as the main ones, but their diameter was 18-20 cm. [redacted] the city pipe network consisted of single pipes, not pairs of coupled ones as in the case of the main line. 25X1
7. [redacted] approximately 70 to 80% of the houses within the city limits had gas connections and were using Stryy gas for cooking purposes. [redacted] this gas was not used for lighting. [redacted]
8. [redacted] until June 1952 neither Stryy nor L'vov had gas, and [redacted] nothing had been done to supply them with it. 25X1
9. [redacted] the gas obtained in the Stryy area referred to it as "methane". [redacted] the quantities of gas discovered in the Stryy area were exceedingly large, [redacted] the gas reserves there were in the form of layers several meters deep extending over a very considerable area. 25X1

Enclosure

A. Location Sketch of Natural Gas Area, Stryy

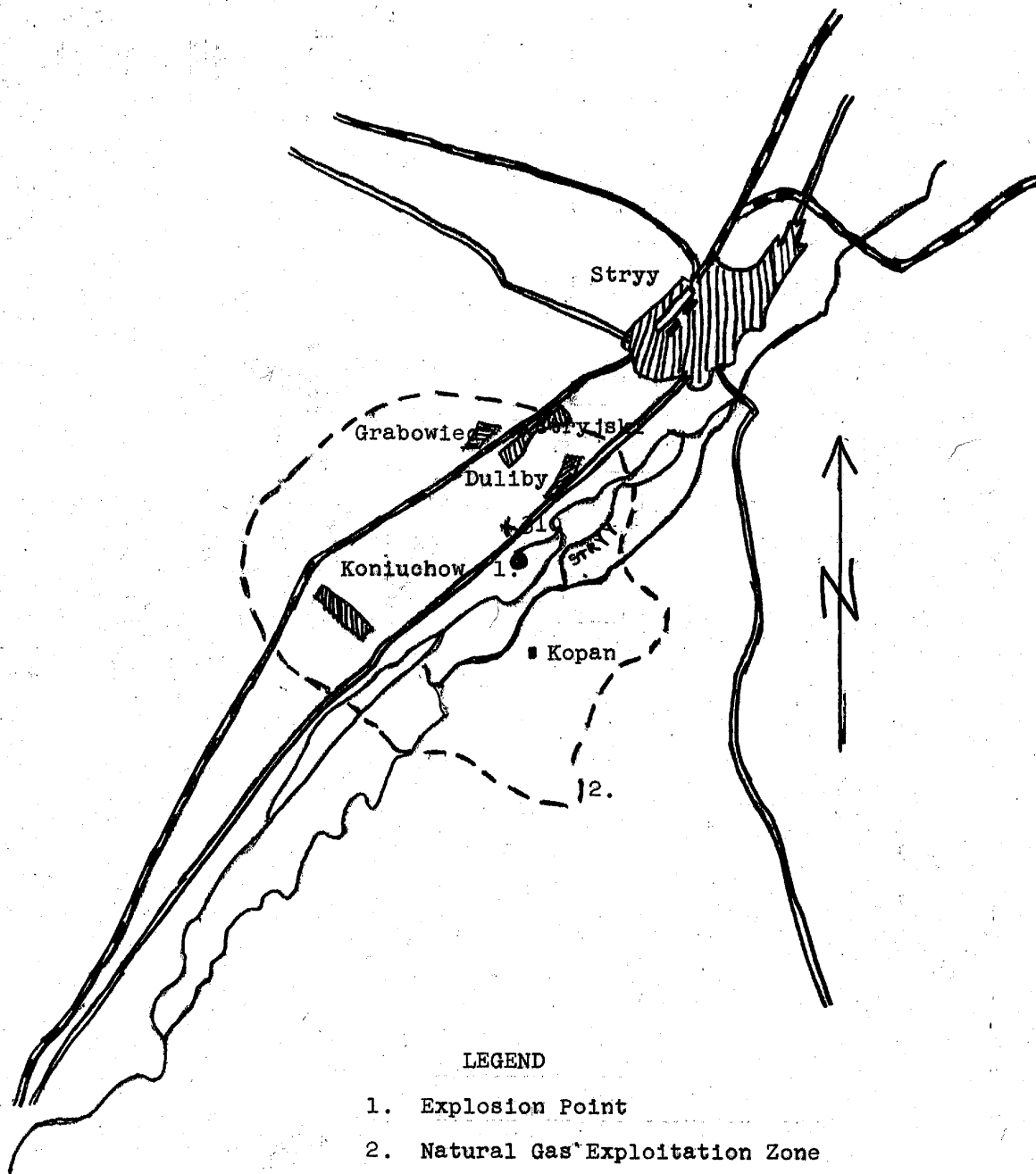
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Enclosure A: Location Sketch Natural Gas Area - Stryi, Scale 1:100,000



A.M.S. Maps 1:100,000
U-18 and V-18 (Stryi and Dolina)

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